

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 through 8 are withdrawn.

Claim 9. (Amended) A laser engraver comprising:

- a. a work surface for supporting a workpiece;
- b. a laser having a beam; and
- c. means for aiming said laser beam at said workpiece comprising a reflector disposed between said laser and said workpiece;
- d. means for moving said reflector relative to said workpiece comprising:
 - i. a first rail situated along one side of said work surface;
 - ii. a second rail situated along the opposite side of said work surface from said first rail, wherein said first and second rails are oriented parallel to one another;
 - iii. a third rail, oriented perpendicular to said first and second rails, and slidably mounted to said first and second rails;
 - iv. a carriage affixed to said reflector and slidably mounted to said third rail;
 - v. means for moving said third rail along said first and second rails; and
 - vi. means for moving said carriage along said third rail; and

~~The laser engraver of claim 8, wherein said~~

- e. means for maintaining the focus of said laser beam on said workpiece comprising:
 - a. i. a laser diode having a beam situated at one end of said third rail;

- b. ii. a receptor at the opposite side of said third rail from said laser diode;
- c. iii. a plunger body having a port between said laser diode and said receptor,

wherein said port is aligned with said laser beam;

- d. iv. a plunger rod slidably received within said plunger body;
- e. v. a spring biasing said plunger rod away from said port; and
- f. vi. means for selectively raising and lowering said work surface to a

predetermined distance from said reflector when said laser beam is broken.

Claim 10 is withdrawn.

Claim 11. (Amended). A laser engraver comprising:

- a. a cabinet having a top;
- b. a work surface along the top of said cabinet;
- c. a gantry assembly affixed to the top of said cabinet comprising:
 - i. a first rail situated along one side of said work surface;
 - ii. a second rail situated along the opposite side of said work surface from said first rail, wherein said first and second rails are oriented parallel to one another;
 - iii. a third rail, oriented perpendicular to said first and second rails, and slidably mounted to said first and second rails;
 - iv. a carriage slidably mounted to said third rail;
 - v. a motorized drive mechanism for moving said third rail along said first and second rails; and
 - vi. a motorized drive mechanism for moving said carriage along said third rail;

- d. a reflector mounted to said carriage, wherein said reflector is oriented toward said work surface;
- e. a laser having a beam, wherein said beam is directed at said reflector;
- f. a computer for controlling the position of said reflector relative to said work surface;

~~The laser engraver of claim 10, further comprising:~~

- a.g. a laser diode having a beam situated at one end of said third rail;
- b.h. a receptor at the opposite end of said third rail from said laser diode;
- c.i. a plunger body having a port between said laser diode and said receptor, wherein said port is aligned with said laser beam;
- d.j. a plunger rod slidably received within said plunger body;
- e.k. a spring biasing said plunger rod away from said port; and
- f.l. means for selectively raising and lowering said work surface to a predetermined distance from said reflector when said laser beam is broken.